

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 10773 111325Z

41

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03

IO-13 SAB-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 ACDA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DHA-02

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R 111233Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5991

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS CAIRO 10773

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR EG LE XF

SUBJ: URGENT ARAFAT MESSAGE TO SADAT ON LEBANON

1. ARAFAT MESSAGE TO SADAT. AHRAM HEADLINED "GRAVE AND URGENT" ARAFAT MESSAGE TO SADAT DELIVERED BY FATAH REP RIBHI AWAD TO MFA. MESSAGE CONCERNED "SYRIAN PLOT TO IMPEDE A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT" INCLUDING SYRIAN REFUSAL TO SIT WITH QUADRAPARTITE CEASEFIRE COMMITTEE; SYRIA'S INSISTENCE THAT KFOUR FRONT ALONE REPRESENT LEBANESE; IN THE EVENT THAT LEFTIST REPRESENTED, SYRIAN VIEW THAT THEIR REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD BE ASIM QUNSUWA, HEAD OF PRO-SYRIAN SOCIALIST BA'ATH ORGANIZATION OF LEBANON; AND FINALLY, SYRIAN DETERMINATION TO SEE RIGHTIST EXPAND FIGHTING. ACCORDING TO AHRAM, ARAFAT MESSAGE SAID SYRIAN PRETEXT FOR NOT ADHERING

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 10773 111325Z

TO AGREEMENT IS FALSE CLAIM THAT PALESTINIAN PROPAGANDA

CAMPAIGN CONTINUING. AKHBAR REPORTS ARAFAT ALSO SENT MESSAGES TO OTHER ARAB LEADERS CALLING ON THEM TO SHOULDER THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND PUT END TO "CONSPIRACY AGAINST PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE."

2. REMAINDER PRESS COVERAGE AUGUST 10-11 SOUNDED THEME OF INCREASING HOPELESSNESS FOR SOLUTION TO LEBANESE CRISIS AS RESULT OF SYRIAN INTRANSIGENCY AND KEPT FAILURE OF SYRO-PALESTINIAN ACCORD PROMINENTLY BEFORE PUBLIC.

3. RIGHT AND SYRIA. PRESS REPORTS ESCALATION BY RIGHTISTS OF FIGHTING ON ALL FRONTS. AHRAM REPORTS SYRIA'S ASSURANCES TO RIGHTISTS OF ITS INTENT TO CONTINUE FIGHTING AND PAPER CONSIDERS THERE NO LONGER ANY HOPE FOR EARLY END TO WAR. EDITORIALS IN ALL PAPERS ATTACKED SYRIAN ROLE. AHRAM REFERRED TO "WAR OF GENOCIDE" LAUNCHED BY SYRIANS AND COMPARED SYRIAN AND LIBYAN REGIMES. AKHBAR CLAIMED SYRIANS AND RIGHTIST HAVE AGREED TO "CONTINUE MASSACRES" UNTIL JOINT OBJECTIVES REACHED SINCE ONLY TOTAL VICTORY WOULD ALLOW THEM TO ESCAPE PUNISHMENT FOR THEIR WAR CRIMES. PAPER REITERATED SYRIAN PULLOUT IS PREREQUISITE FOR ANY SOLUTION. GUMHURRIYA ALSO SAW FUTURE OF ANY CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT DOOMED BY SYRIAN DETERMINATION TO SEE FIGHTING CONTINUE. CLAIMED ARAB NATION WILL NEVER FORGIVE SYRIAN BA'ATH.

4. MERCENARY MENACE. AKHBAR HAD EXCLUSIVE REPORT THAT "ARAB DIPLOMATS IN LONDON" ARE HOLDING TALKS WITH FOREIGN OFFICE ON RECRUITMENT OF BRITISH MERCENARIES FOR LEBANESE CHRISTIANS.
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